tenuous fluid. In others that of an infinitely

dense solid, and in still others the properties

of a jelly. It is the medium through which

light moves by waves of an ascertained

length; electric energy by waves of a different

length; heat by waves of still another length

and the energy which we call gravitation by

sime means not yet ascertained.

Again, it is the medium in the opaque flash through which the invisible rave of light form an X-ray photograph Its waves flow through so dense a mass of matter as a block of glass, as water flows through a leve If, then, asks Dr. McConnell, the niversal ether be a medium in which the lemental energies of heat, light, electricity and, possibly, chemical energy, do their work, nay not vital energy be concerned with it as well? Here we are reminded that about wenty years ago two eminent men of science Prof P G. Tait, put forth hesitatingly a theory of a physical basis of a future life. Starting from the evident double truth that all psychical activity is associated with olecular activity in the master of the brain be a tertium quid, a third something which serves as the nexus between them, and that ethereal matter may be such tert um quid that each thought we think, each motion we movements and rearrangements in the brain. The psychica activity actually builds up a physical fabric for itself. This material progress, with the concomitant possibility to build up, as it were, a brain within the | those who attain it any more than this one the body of flesh sh there will have been left a body, material to be sure, but compacted of a kind of matter

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which behaves quite differently from that which our sense perceptions deal with." This new body would be formed of a material the ether, which, so far as science has anything to say about it, is essentially indestructible. It would move freely among and through ordinary matter without let or hindrance. Our author deems it not difficult to form a picture of a life under such conditions. "From the individual spirits of just men made perfect this present 'muddy vesture of decay' has dropped away, leaving them 'not unclothed, but clothed upon. They are still men. They have rational souls with material bodies, fit to sustain and to express their psychical life. The matter of their bodies is obedient to the laws of matter and life, but to the laws of that kind of life and matter. 'There are celestial bodies and bodies terrestrial,' and each has its own modes of action. Such ethereal bodies compacted with living souls would of necessity inhabit a universe of their own, even though that universe should occupy the same space that this one does. Neither earth nor fire nor water could in the least imrede their movements. In frost and flames they would be equally at home. With the swiftness of light or gravitation they could speed from where old Boötes leads his leash to where Sagittarius draws his bow in the south." Dr. McConnell goes on to argue that "with bodies of such fine stuff compounded and so plastic to the uses of the spirit their knowledge would expand until nature's secrets should lie open to their eyes

Their senses would be so acute and delitely balanced as to be capable of thrills of pleasure so transcendent and of pain so poignant that the experience of this present life probably gives us no comparison to estimate them by. Love could have its perfect way where there would be perfect comprehension." In the present stage of existence no personality ever knows really very much of any other. Each is shut within a body that it should be bathed in a matter which we which, at the best can only partially reveal it Each living soul can but make itself known and can gain knowledge of another only weighed and measured. A sphere of it, the through physical media which are limited size of the earth, would, if compressed to the by the qualities of the matter which compose density of the earth, be in size somewhere be- them. The mind is continually weighed tween a marble and an orange. As Lord down and retarded by the thousand ills that Kelvin has proved, the universal other ex- desh is heir to. Our author, however, has bits in some ways the phenomena of a highly no doubt that the Ethereal body, also, is subject to its own ills "But being in close relation to the psychical life, and immeasurably better fitted for being the vehicle for its expression, knowledge and love must ave opened to them possibilities, not infinite, indeed, but so extended that we may not even try to guess their limits "

Dr. McConnell by no means overs that all human beings are capable of a life beyond the grave. The condition of such an existment of self-conscious moral sensibility; of that faculty which we call conscience and which feels the sense of obligation to other sonal immortality is irrelevant, because there is, accurately speaking, no personality to become immortal. Up to that point the in Great Britain, Prof. Balfour Stewart and I individual living creature, whether in human form or not, falls short of the essential personality for which eternal life can have any meaning Only for those persons who and nerves, while, at the same time, physical | sible | It by no means follows that all who and psychical phenomena are evidently are capable of a future life must have attained different things, they suggest that there may in this life to the same degree of moral ex cellence. Future life, to be personal life at all, to involve consciousness and memory must be continuous with that which now i The author of this nook goes on to elaborate. One must begin again where he leaves of in detail his hypothesis. He reminds us. This implies, however, the passage into the feel, is accompanied by certain molecular velopment, provided only that they have been developed far enough in every case to make the transit possible. "The law of growth and fabric, however, is every moment disinte- of degeneration and death, must be carried grating and at death falls into ruin "Sup- over with them, and must hold wherever says Or McConnell, "that before living creatures are. One may not affirm this ruin befalls, the soul shall have been able | that the future life is an 'endless' one for brain, a body within the body, something is. It has its own laws of being, and the oblike that which the Orientals have for ages verse of evers law is a penalty and the ulti-

Continued on Ei hth Page.

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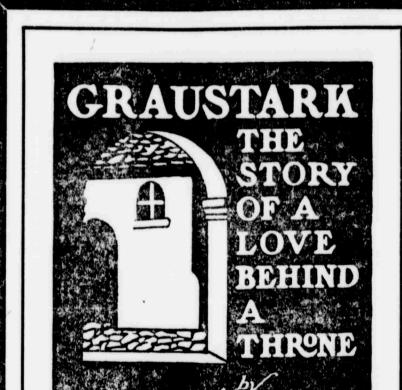
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